

But that is taking a huge risk with my constituents' economic futures. Look at it this way: If your foolish neighbor accidentally sets his apartment on fire, you could just let it burn and say that it serves him right. But the truth is, you live in the same apartment building: unless you call the fire department and use taxpayer funds to have it put out, in a short time your apartment is going to be destroyed by that same fire.

This bill is not perfect, but improvements have been made and protections and accountability have been added to it over the past two weeks. Now CEO's will be prohibited from collecting "golden parachute" payments or huge bonuses based on their company's stock price if their institutions want to participate. Also, since the federal government will become the owner of many troubled mortgages, the bill directs the Treasury Department to try to help some of those homeowners stay in their homes by easing the terms of the loan in ways that might prevent foreclosure and eviction. And if this works as it should, taxpayer outlays should be recouped—and perhaps even a profit turned—as the federal government sells the mortgages back into the market over time.

Madam Speaker, I had family who lived through the Great Depression, and I know that when the wider economy tailspins into a depression, it is poor and working families who are hit the hardest. I am not willing to stand by and do nothing while this crash spreads to my constituents.

HONORING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE CHIEF JOHN SCHERREI

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Mr. John Scherrei, Fire Chief of Santa Barbara County, upon reaching his retirement after 38 years of fighting fires.

Fire Chief Scherrei was appointed as the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Chief in 1999. He previously had a 28-year career with the City of Los Angeles Fire Department where he held all ranks from firefighter to Assistant Chief and was often the highest ranking fire official on duty for the Los Angeles area.

During Fire Chief Scherrei's time with Santa Barbara County, the Fire Department has added paramedics on its engine companies; created and integrated two brush clearing crews to the department; acquired the County's first high-rise tower ladder truck to its firefighting equipment inventory and has successfully deployed two firefighting and rescue helicopters.

Fire Chief Scherrei also oversaw the merger of the Solvang and Orcutt fire departments into the County Fire Department and guided the Fire Department through both recent wild land forest fires: the 2007 Zaca Fire—at about 240,000 acres the largest fire in the County's known history—and the 9,400-acre Gap Fire that occurred earlier this year. In both major fires, no lives were lost and no homes were destroyed. Most recently, Fire Chief Scherrei helped supervise efforts related to the 2,000-acre Tea fire, which damaged or destroyed 219 residences.

Over the last decade, Fire Chief Scherrei has worked with concerned citizens to form the Firefighter Alliance, which helps the department acquire urgent, unbudgeted tools and equipment and he has helped establish a firefighter Benevolent Association which is a charity to assist the fire family with personal loss, and family tragedy situations.

Fire Chief Scherrei was also instrumental in creating the County's first memorial event at the historic Courthouse Gardens regarding the September 11th terrorist attacks and also the 75th anniversary event commemorating the founding of the County Fire Department.

He has a master's degree in public administration from Cal Lutheran University and a bachelor's degree in sociology from California State University, Northridge. Fire Chief Scherrei also proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps and is a Vietnam Veteran.

Madam Speaker, Chief Scherrei will retire from the County of Santa Barbara on January 23, 2009. To his wife, Piper; his four children; his 11 grandchildren; and to everyone whose lives have been enriched by him, Chief Scherrei is a man of courage, vigor, and guidance.

Throughout his tenure as Fire Chief, Mr. Scherrei has advanced the state of fire and all-hazard emergency response in the County. As a result, our residents, businesses and visitors have benefited from his leadership and duty to serve. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. John Scherrei for his 38 years as Fire Chief and honor his admirable service to the community and our country.

HONORING JUDGE JOEL B. ROSEN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 JUDGE F. GERRY AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Honorable Joel B. Rosen, former United States Magistrate Judge of the New Jersey District, on receiving the 2008 Judge John F. Gerry Award. I consider Joel a close friend and commend him on being honored for his commitment to his profession and his work on behalf of the community.

This prestigious award is named in honor of Judge John F. Gerry who was appointed to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey by President Gerald Ford in 1974. Judge Gerry became the District Court's Chief Judge in 1987 and served in this position until October 1994. The Camden County Bar Foundation established the John F. Gerry Memorial Scholarship in 2002 as a tribute to the humanitarianism and integrity of this respected public servant.

Judge Rosen's auspicious career began when he served as an Assistant United States Attorney, after graduating with honors from Rutgers School of Law in Camden. As the attorney-in-charge of the United States Attorney's office in Camden, he received several commendations from the Department of Justice for prosecuting organized crime and political corruption. Judge Rosen also served as the Chief of the Special Prosecutions Section

as a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. In 1987, Judge Rosen was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of New Jersey where he served until 2006.

Judge Rosen has also played a noteworthy role in educating the next generation of outstanding legal minds. He has been an adjunct faculty member of Rutgers School of Law, Camden, where he has lectured on class actions and complex litigation. Judge Rosen has also taught constitutional principles at Rutgers University, Camden and has lectured at numerous continuing legal education programs. He is a member of the Disciplinary Oversight Committee and the Committee on Minority Concerns of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Judge Rosen is also a member of the Board of the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

Madam Speaker, over his distinguished career Judge Rosen has been the recipient of many distinguished service awards. In 1999, The Black Law Students Association presented the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Champions for Social Justice and Equality Award to Judge Rosen. Then, in 2004, Judge Rosen was presented with the Honorable Joseph M. Nardi, Jr. Distinguished Service Award, conferred by Rutgers School of Law, Camden.

Madam Speaker, I have known Judge Rosen for over a decade and have been repeatedly impressed by his intelligence and compassion. He is an excellent role-model for young Americans considering a career in the legal profession. I commend Judge Rosen for his many years of service and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JACK SCOTT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Honorable Jack Scott, State Senator from California's 21st District.

Jack Scott was born and raised in Sweetwater, Texas. An advocate of higher education, he received a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian College, a master of divinity from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in American history from Claremont Graduate University.

Senator Scott began his career as a professor and administrator at Pepperdine University in 1962. He then moved on to Orange Coast College, and in 1978, he became President of Cypress College. In 1987, he took over the position as President of Pasadena City College. As President, he was responsible for the development of its library, Community Education Center, Child Development Center, physical education complex, and Sculpture Garden. Despite declines in state funding, the college had more than \$6 million in reserve funds when Scott retired from the presidency in 1995.

In 1996, Jack was elected to the California State Assembly where he served until 2000, when he was elected to the State Senate. During his eight-year tenure in the State Senate, he chaired the Senate Committee on Education and the Joint Committee on the Arts. Throughout his term, he fought to increase the